

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 /077 W

-----311327Z 121849 /44

R 311009Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2513

INFO: RUTABA/AMCONSUL ASMARA 7877

AMEMBASSY CIARO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

QMNI/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 9211

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 0546

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SU KE SO TZ LY

SUBJ: SUDAN/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS

SUMMARY. KENYANS IN ADDIS ARE CLEARLY CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT SUDANESE, ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS WILL WORSEN AND FEAR THAT ETHIOPIANS MAY NOT BE TAKING MATTER SERIOUSLY ENOUGH. KENYAN CHARGE BELIEVES THERE IS POSSIBILITY NIMEIRI, EPMG PMAC CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE AND SOMALIA'S SIAD WILL MEET IN DAR ES SALAAM FEB 4 FOLLOWING TANZANIAN EFFORTS BE HELPFUL IN RESOLVING DISPUTE. HE ALSO BELIEVED EPMG WAS CONTEMPLATING STRONG STATEMENT AND REPORTED SOME SENTIMENT IN EPMG THAT AMERICANS ARE SIDING WITH SUDAN. END SUMMARY.

1. CHARGE CALLED ON KENYAN CHARGE MGOYA JAN 28 TO REVIEW WITH HIM KENYAN PERCEPTIONS OF CURRENT SUDAN/ETHIOPIAN CONTRETEMPS. MBOYA'S COMMENTS FOLLOW:

A. GENESIS WAS COUP AGAINST NIMEIRI THAT FAILED LAST SUMMER. SUDANESE BLAMED LIBYANS, BUT ETHIOPIANS WERE INVOLVED AS WELL, AND SUDANESE HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN.

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B. VARIOUS SUDANESE MISSIONS TO ADDIS IN FOLLOWING MONTHS HAD NOT ENTIRELY RESOLVED MATTER, ALTHOUGH BOTH GOVERNMENTS HAD KEPT IT LOW KEY.

C. VISIT OF LIBYAN DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ALI TRKEI IN OCTOBER WAS PRESUMABLY FOR PURPOSE OF SUGGESTING LIBYAN-ETHIOPIAN COOPERATION AGAINST SUDAN. EITHER AT THIS MEETING OR LATER, LIBYANS PROPOSED

TO WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR ERITREAN INSURGENTS IN RETURN FOR ETHIOPIAN HELP PRESUMABLY WITH ANSAR REFUGEES AGAINST LIBYA. UP TO DOLS 200 MILLION WERE PROMISED TO ETHIOPIANS FOR AMRS PURCHASES . ETHIOPIANS AGREED. (NOTE: THIS IS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM AMONG DIPLOMATS IN ADDIS, AND MBOYA AGREED HE WAS SPECULATING. WE HAVE YET TO SEE HARD EVIDENCE ON THIS POINT, PARTICULARLY RE MONEY INVOLVE.)

D. MBOYA WAS NOT SURE WHY NIMEIRI HAD CHOSEN TO MAKE AN ISSUE OUT OF SUBJECT NOW, BUT ASSUMED , AS DO OTHER OBSERVERS HERE, THAT NIMEIRI WAS CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER PLOT. HE AGREED THAT IT WAS RATHER DIFFICULT TO FIND ETHIOPIANS WILLING TO TAKE SERIOUSLY THE LIKELIHOOD OF REAL TROUBLE BETWEEN SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA, BUT SAID KENYA DID, AND THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD BY RELIABLE ETHIOPIAN SOURCE THAT ETHIOPIANS WHO HAVE THUS FAR PLAYED PROBLEM IN LOW KEY, WOULD LIKELY ISSUE A STRONG STATMENT SOON (STATEMENTS WERE ISSUED JAN 29 AND 30 -- SEE SEPTELS).

E. HE SAID HE AWARE OF LOCAL STORIES THAT SECON VICE CHAIRMAN ATNAFU HAD RECENTLY BEEN IN TRIPOLI AND WAS ALSO AWARE OF STORY THAT ARMS OF SOVIET ORIGIN HAD RECENTLY REACHED ETHIOPIA FROM LIBYA. HE THOUGHT ETHIOPIANS HAD EARLIER PLANNED TO MOVE ANSAR CAMPS FROM GONDAR REGION ELSEWHERE, BUT SAID IF SO, ETHIOPIANS NEVER GOT AROUND TO IT. HE ALSO THOUGHT THE "MAHDI" HAD FLED TO ETHIOPIA AFTER ABORTIVE SUMMER COUP, THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD REFUSED HIM REFUGE, THAT HE HAD GONE TO LIBYA, BUT HAD SUBSEQUENTLY AT LEAST REVISITED ETHIOPIA. FINALLY, HE VOLUNTEERED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENTAL SOURCE (NOT IDENTIFIED) THAT THERE WAS SOME CONFIDENTIAL

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SENTIMENT WITHIN EPMG THAT AMERICANS WERE BACKING SUDAN.

2. AKSED WHY ETHIOPIANS WOULD BE WILLING COURT PROBLEMS WITH SUDANESE WHEN THEY ALREADY HAD QUITE ENOUGH, HE THOUGHT REASON WAS SIMPLY TO PROVIDE COUNTERWRIGHT TO SUDANESE ASSISTANCE TO ERITREANS AND PROBABLY TO ETHIOPIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION (EDU) (AS DO MOST OTHER OBSERVERS HERE), HE ALSO EXPRESSED OPINION THAT DIRG WAS EXHIBITING AN UNWARRANTED DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE, OR OVERCONFIDENCE, THAT HE SEEMED THINK WAS TYPICAL OF DIRG'S PERFORMANCE GENERALLY.

3. ASKED WHETHER ANY SERIOUS EFFORTS BY THIRD COUNTRIES TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE WERE IN PROCESS (FAIRLY WIDELY RUMORED IN ADDIS), HE SAID TANZANIANS WERE INDEED TRYING TO DO SOMETHING AND THAT SENEGALESE, NIGERIANS AND GHANAIANS HAD OFFERED. ACCORDING HIS INFO, BOTH SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA HAD APPROACHED TANZANIA AND HE THOUGHT THERE WAS POSSIBILITY THAT EPMG PMAC CHAIRMAN TEFERI BANTE,

NIMEIRI AND SONALIA'S SIAD WOULD MEET IN DAR ON FEB.4.  
HE CONFIRMED THAT OAU HAD TAKEN NO PARTICULAR INITIATIVE.

4. HE SAID RECENT ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TO MALAGASY,  
MOZAMBIGUE, ANGOLA AND CONGO (ADDIS ABABA 0490  
WAS AN EFFORT TO LINE UP BLACK AFRICAN SUPPORT AGAINST  
ARABS IN CURRENT DISPUTE, AND IT HIS UNDERSTANDING  
SECOND MISSION WOULD BE SENT TO WEST AFRICA SHORTLY WHERE  
THEY WOULD VISIT OTHER RADICAL CAPITALS FOR SAME PURPOSE.  
ASKED WHY HE THOUGHT THEY WERE NOT LINING UP SUPPORT IN  
MODERATE CAPITALS SUCH AS NAIROBI, MBOYA COMMENTED THAT  
HE FEARED ETHIOPIA WAS TAKING KENYA FOR FRANTED.

5. COMMENT: WITH EXCEPTION OF HIS FEELING THAT TRI-  
PARTITIE MEETING IN DAR WAS POSSIBILITY ANS HIS INFO THAT  
ETHIOPIANS WERE BUILDING UP TO STRONG STATEMENT, MBOYA'S  
PERCEPTIONS WERE GENERALLY THOSE PREVALENT IN ADDIS.  
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UNLIKE SOME OTHER OBSERVERS, HOWEVER, IT WAS QUITE  
APPARENT THAT KENYA IS WORRIED AND TAKES MATTER SERIOUSLY.  
HIS REPORT ABOUT SENTIMENT IN EPMG THAT U.S. IS SUPPORTING  
SUDAN IS PROBABLY REFLECTION OF SUSPICIONS THAT CROP UP  
PERIODICALLY IN CERTAIN EPMG QUARTERS ABOUT AMERICAN  
INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION, THIS TIME  
PERHAPS AUGMENTED BY OUR STATED WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER  
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN.  
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## Message Attributes

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